

STATISTICAL REPORT

C A M P P E R R O T

Tenth Annual Report
1953

Montreal Y.M.C.A.

Chairman, Boys' Camping Committee - S.F. Kneeland
Chairman, Camp Perrot Committee - S. Mackey

Director - Donald Cochrane

Committee

Bruce Campbell ✓
George Campbell ✓
C.J. Campbell ✓
P.J. Fisher ✓
Allan Forbes ✓
Henry F. Hall ✓
A. Hamilton ✓
W.J.C. Hewetson ✓
John F. Lewis
Gordon Mackey
D.R. Melville

John A. McGiffin
Dr. Preston Robb
E.H. Sampson
S.A. Semper
J.F.W. Smith
A.R. Twentarny
John Venters
O.N.H. Owens
Donald Cochrane
Don Dewar
Roy D. Locke

To The Boys' Camp Committee,
Montreal Y.M.C.A.

Gentlemen:

With the return of Mr. Robert Kneeland, Crafts Director, and Mr. William MacRae, Junior Section Director, and the addition of Mr. William Osterman, with ten years camping experience, Camp Perrot was ensured a successful 1953 season. In fact, I have never enjoyed a camping season as much as this past summer.

Highlights

Once again we are indebted to Mr. J. Ernest Millen. This summer he presented the Camp with a portable threespeed gramophone, \$100.00 for Crafts material, and plans to add a bandsaw to the Craft Shop next spring.

The Foreman's Club of Montreal, after having presented the Camp with twenty wharves for the Swimming Pool, feels that it cannot do enough for the boys and girls of Montreal and now plans to build a much needed Recreation Hall for Camp Perrot. Two thousand dollars was donated by this group as the first step towards this noble project.

Program.

Morning Interest Groups

Once again the Handicraft Workshop was in continuous operation under the skillful supervision of Mr. Robert Kneeland. As usual, woodwork in the Craft Shop proved most successful, with archery and boating in second place, and with braiding, bait casting, wood carving, clay modelling, nature lore and woodsmanship falling in the above order.

Tripping

The Camp's three nine-man war canoes were greatly in demand by all campers. With the addition of life-jackets, as an added safety measure, tripping was extended to the younger campers. Having accompanied three canoes of the youngest boys (ages 10 and 11) on an over-night trip to Pine Island, which is 6 miles from the Camp, I found them very capable and keen.

In a camp such as ours, where program and hikes are limited due to the lack of wooded areas and the location, canoe trips fill the gap and adds greatly to the campers experience, for tripping is camping in its truest sense.

Some 160 campers went on trips from 2 to 5 days plus 20 counsellors, C.I.Ts, and staff members.

Indian Council Fires

New life was added to the council fire programs with addition of Chief Tomahawk (Bill Osterman) and his well planned Indian wars which provided a variety of physical activity for the braves and warriors but nearly crippled older members of the Perrot Council!

The background props for Council Fires was greatly improved with the planting of 100 cedars around the ring, the addition of 16 railway ties for seats, 2 more totem poles, and the mowing of the grass which has almost turned the ring into a lawn.

We are slowly building up our Indian costumes but still have trouble getting turkey feathers.

The Backwoodsman's Day

This all-camp program was very successful. It consisted of true competition in log-sawing, pack-sack relay races, knot-tying, tent pitching, fire lighting and pancake cooking. The program ended with a cook-out. It was thrilling to see 16 fires, in a large circle, in operation and the campers trying to flip pancakes. Some were surprising good at it.

Perrot Penny Fair

A very successful Penny Fair was held this year. The parents were notified in advance and came out en masse to support this worthwhile cause; all proceeds were donated to World Service.

Some campers ate as many as eight hot-dogs, without any ill-effects. "Get a kiss from the Nurse" was the most popular booth.

Other program highlights, enjoyed by everyone, were the Saturday night shows, especially The Staff Shows; the Masquerade Birthday Party, Indian Decathlon and the many swim meets, regattas and tournaments.

Waterfront

Owing to the unlimited energy of Steve Montague, Waterfront Director, a hundred boys passed Y.M.C.A. Swim cards. Steve was instrumental in the construction of the railway tie wall at the bottom of the bank in the swimming area.

Health

Under the able supervision of Miss Norma Anjo, R.N., the hospital operated smoothly with only minor casualties. From records kept by the nurse, it was found that the average campers gain in weight was $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. The counsellors' average gain was 6 pounds with Eric Oke topping the list with a gain of 15 pounds. It is interesting to note that Eric was out on canoe trips most of the summer.

Visits to the hospital: Campers - 350, Counsellors-100, Staff - 2.

Camp Improvement

Painting - All buildings have been painted within the last two years. The south-west sides of the dining hall and "Parliaments" should be painted next year with extra linseed oil being added to the paint.

Grounds - The large hedge around the cottage was cut back three feet. The lawn on the west side was levelled and seeded. Considerable work needs to be done on the rear lawn. A power driven lawn mower was bought in an attempt to develop lawns across to the hospital, in front of the dining hall and in the Council ring. The ground in the hospital area needs to be rolled next Spring.

- All the apple trees were pruned but need more.
- Cedars were planted in beds in front of the dining hall.

Reforestation - Another 5,000 spruce were planted in the back half of the camp property, giving a total of 10,000. About 100 spruce were planted along the top of the bank at the waterfront. Several rows were placed along the ditch in the lower half of the camp.

- Several pine-trees have been planted in the lower camp and 100 cedars around the Council Ring.
- 100 poplar have been ordered from the Government for the waterfront next spring. Many wild poplar and willow are sprouting up all over the newly graded bank.
- 10 small lilac trees were transplanted from the cottage to the lower camp.
- All trees were doing well on my last visit to the camp on October 9th.

Chapel

Twenty old railway ties were obtained for seats in the chapel.

Waterfront

The heavy canvas donated to the camp by Mr. Frank McPhee greatly enhances the wharves.

- Another twenty ties were built into a wall along the waterfront.
- Several tons of rock were removed from the shore this summer thus allowing the sand to be washed in. This is resulting in a nice beach similar to the one to the east of the camp property.

Cesspool Systems

- More tile, set in gravel, plus another cesspool was added to the system leading from the kitchen in order to handle the overflow which was appearing on the surface. Similar steps were taken to handle sewage from the hospital.

New Pump

As there are two wells on the camp and the pipe system is so arranged that either well can supply the whole camp or one supply the cottage and hospital while the other supplies the dining hall and lower camp; a new electrical siphon jet type pump was bought for the cottage well.

Drinking Taps

The area of the drinking taps in the lower camp is an eye sore. There is poor drainage and the ground is always wet and muddy.

The rule has been that the taps are for drinking and teeth brushing only, the river to be used for washing but everyone washes at the taps anyway.

As there seems to be an ample supply of water, we should build a proper wash house and include showers.

Kitchen Staff Quarters

There is a real need for living quarters other than tents for the kitchen staff. Both the kitchen and the tents are extremely hot during the summer, then there is no place for them to relax comfortably during their short breaks from the kitchen grind. It is suggested that a 2 room bungalow with a gallery and an inside toilet be constructed in the area back of the kitchen.

Kitchen

An immersion heater for the hot water tank, in place of the jacket-heater would partially solve the problem of an over-heated kitchen in the summer. It would also eliminate the dirt and dust encountered in handling coal.

Canoe and Paddles

There is need of another war canoe and 2 dozen shorter paddles.

Waterfront

The soil washed out of the new embankment should be replaced by stone. This would amount to approximately 400 tons. The cost delivered would be \$1.75 per ton (\$700.00) as quoted by Mr. E. Leduc, the camp's local contractor.

Trees

As the tents are still without protection from the wind and the thoughts of waiting 15 years for trees to grow is very discouraging, it is suggested that a sum of money be obtained for larger trees.

In Closing

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of Camp Perrot, 1953.

Mr. J. Ernest Millen for his continued support of the camp.

The Foreman's Club of Montreal for their generous donation.

Mr. F.B. Walls, Vice President of the Montreal Y.M.C.A., for the nylon Union Jack.

Mr. Frank McPhee for his generous gift of heavy canvas to cover the wharves. This eliminates the hazard of boys slipping on the wood and contributed greatly to water safety.

Mr. Victor Daoust, building contractor, who kept the campers supplied with firewood. As there is little, if any, wood available on the camp, this thoughtfulness of Mr. Daoust kept the camp fires burning brightly.

The "Y"'s Men's Club of the Westmount Branch of the Y.M.C.A. for painting the hospital and Craft Shop.

All members of the advance and rear guard for their many hours of hard work.

The Staff and Counsellors of Boys' and Girls' Camp.

The Camp Board of Management.

The Staff of the Montreal Y.M.C.A.

Miss Sheila Dover of the Camp Office.

Roy D. Locke, Executive Secretary of Boys' Camps.

My sincere thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Cochrane.
Director.

BOYS' CAMP STAFF, 1953.

D. Cochrane
R. Kneeland
W. Osterman
W. MacRae
S. Montague
G. Swoger
Miss N. Anjo
J. Beeker.
N. Christen
J. Sporkeels

Director.
Crafts and Senior Section Director.
Intermediate Section Director.
Junior Section Director.
Waterfront Director.
Business Manager.
Nurse.
Chef.
Assistant Chef.
Assistant Chef.

Counsellors.

Eric Oke
Norman Wray
Buck Kay

Senior Section.

Don Roberts
Ted Howard
Eddie Reiger
Graham Harrison
Bob Raymant
Chuck Parker (Counsellor in Training)

Intermediate Section

Mark Shapiro
Ted Hassall
John Elver
Bill Burden
Don Sketchley
Tony Whittall
John Duckworth
Ken Copland
Jim McPhee (Counsellor in Training)
Ed Clarke (Counsellor in Training)

Junior Section.

Roving Counsellors.

Bob Allen
Bob Simpson

STATISTICAL REPORT

Camper Weeks

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Boys	358	588	635	584	589	568
Girls	178	189	193	203	203	172
	<u>536</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>828</u>	<u>787</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>740</u>

Number of Individual Campers

Boys	223	199	177	205	177
Girls	100	100	105	103	86
	<u>323</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>263</u>

Number of Campers for each week of Camp

Weeks

1953

June 30 - July 7	-	92
July 7 - July 14	-	92
July 14 - July 21	-	100
July 21 - July 28	-	101
July 28 - Aug 4	-	96
Aug 4 - Aug 11	-	86
Aug 12 - Aug 19	-	86
Aug 19 - Aug 26	-	86

Average stay per Camper 2.8 weeks.
